Reservation for Backward Classes

2760. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the date when the Prime Minister had made an announcement in the background of an agitation in Gujarat) to the effect that Government propose to have a national consensus evolved on the issue of reservations for the backward classes;

(b) the dates when the moves to evolve such a consensus were attempted; what is the progress so far in this regard; and

(c) what is the proposed next move now to fulfill the Prime Minister's announcement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (c) In a Press Conference held at Ahmedabad on the 23rd March, 1985, the Prime Minister, in reply to a question, had stated that he will have to talk to the people to evolve a consensus and also to the State authorities and see what they have to say. The Home Minister had, hence in May 1985 addressed the Chief Ministers suggesting them to maintain *status quo* on the issue of reservations for Other Backward Classes. Government continues to be of the view that *status quo* should be maintained on this issue till a national consensus is evolved.

Rehabilitation Insurance Scheme for Industrial Workers rendered surplus due to Modernisation

2761. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Rehabilitation Insurance Scheme for Industrial Workers rendered surplus due to modernisation/rehabilitation of potentially sick units, prepared by the General Insurance Corporation of India;

(b) when this scheme commenced in different States and the number of workers covered in varous States, the number of persons who have already benefited under this scheme; and

(c) what is the fate of those workers who are rendered unemployed for reasons other than modernisation, rehabilitation of the unit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) A draft scheme prepared by the General Insurance Corporation was received through the Ministry of Finance. It proposed to provide cash assistance to workers retrenched as a result of modernisation or potential sickness of the industry by creating a fund to be financed by employers, employees and the Central Government in a specified ratio.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Labour has not found the scheme capable of implementation. The question of its commencement etc. does not, therefore, arise.

भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र के एक कर्मचारी द्वारा की गई पहल

1762. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1970 में भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र के एक कर्मचारी की पहल पर जापान के "जैटरो" इंस्टीट्यूट ने संयंत्र में जमा बेकार खनिजों का दौहन करने के प्रयोजन से पैलेट बनाने का संयंत्र देने हेतु भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र को एक प्रस्ताव भेजा था जो संयंत्र के प्राधिकारियों द्वारा नामंजूर कर दिया गया था ;

(ख) क्या उस कर्मचारी के जिसने यह पहल की थी, विरुद्ध कोई विभागीय कार्यवाही की गई है और उसे सेवा से बरखास्त कर दिया गया था ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि ऐसा संयंत्र गत कुछ वर्षों से देश में एक प्राइवेट संस्थान द्वारा चलाया जा रहा है और यह संस्थान काफी मुनाफा कमा रहा है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो ऐसी अच्छी पहल करने के लिए उस कर्मचारी को सेवा से बरखास्त किये जाने के क्या कारण है ?

इ... ... ... मंत्री (श्री माखन लाल फोतेदार) : (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं ।

(ग) सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी नहीं है कि देश में एक गैर-सरकारी संस्थान द्वारा पैलेट बनाने वाला कोई संयंत्र चलाया जा रहा है ।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Non-utilization of IRDP amount in Madhya Pradesh

2763. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rupees 77 crores out of the assistance granted to Madhya Pradesh for I.R.D.P. has been deposited in different districts without spending it, as a result of it financial assistance could not be available to thousands of poor people living below the poverty line;

(b) whether any action has been taken against the persons found guilty of keeping the amount of the grant deposited for such a long time without utilising it;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to make any improvement in the monitoring being done in this regard and the central level;

(e) during which years the above mentioned amount was granted to the State Government and whether the State Government had showed this amount as spent earlier; and

(f) whether instructions are likely to be issued to the State Governments to fix the responsibility of the concerned official/individual for furnishing wrong information in respect of the programmes meant for the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (f) Information has been called from the State Government and the same is awaited.

Focus on political Activities of Prime Minister and Congress

2764. SHRI M. VINCENT:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan focuses more attention on the political activities of the Prime Minister and Congress Party; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to convert the Doordarshan into an autonomous body so that it could function without bias?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir. Doordarshan covers important news and current events in a fair, objective and balanced manner. The speeches/statements of the Prime Minister are given due notice as these are considerd to be the policy statements of the Head of the Government.

(b) Does not arise. Doordarshan has complete functional autonomy.